

### **REMARKS**

Claims 5, 13-26 and 36-38 have been canceled without prejudice. Consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

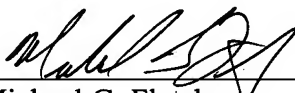
If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

### **General Authorization for Extensions of Time**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicants hereby provide a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Furthermore, Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge the appropriate fee for any extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-3092; Order No. MCRO:017--7/FLE (94-0358.07).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 18, 2004

  
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